



Attorney's Docket No. 9013.43

#8
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Galbraith, et al.
Serial No.: 10/069,082
Int'l Application No. PCT/GB00/03159
Int'l Filing Date: August 16, 2000
For: RETROVIRUS ASSAY

Confirmation No. 9280

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December 9, 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Box DAC
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Ex. note: Appl. appears to be w/ from a hand. ok

**PETITION TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR SECTION 1.181**

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Abandonment mailed November 27, 2002, a copy of which is attached, Applicants respectfully request and/or petition that the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") withdraw the holding of abandonment, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.181 and MPEP §711.04 (c), as abandonment never occurred.

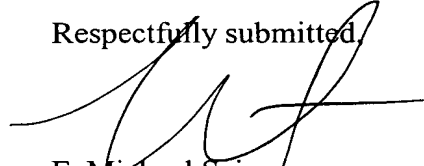
The Notice of Abandonment states that: "No reply has been received" in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts mailed on May 29, 2002 ("the Missing Parts"). However, Applicants have submitted a Declaration, Assignment, Sequence Listing, and Extension of Time in response to the Missing Parts ("the Reply"). The Reply was mailed to the USPTO with a Certificate of Mailing on October 25, 2002. A copy of the Reply with the signed Certificate of Mailing dated October 25, 2002, and the stamped postcard from the USPTO evidencing receipt of this submission on October 30, 2002 is attached hereto.

Applicants request that a Withdrawal of the Notice of Abandonment be sent to the undersigned attorney via facsimile at the earliest possible opportunity. The Patent Office is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone should any further matters need to be addressed. This Action is being promptly taken after receiving the Notice of Abandonment.

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Applicants believe that no fee is required for the Petition at this time as the Notice of Abandonment occurred without fault on the part of the Applicants. Any additional fee associated with this Petition may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,



F. Michael Sajovec
Registration No. 47,115

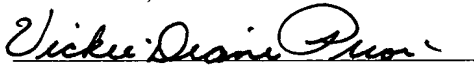


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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on December 9, 2002.



Vickie Diane Prior

Date of Signature: December 9, 2002